Vol. II. Numb. 8.

The EXAMINER.

From Thursday *January* 17, to Thursday *January* 24. 1711.

IN one of the *Daily Courants* of laſt Week, I find a ſplendid Catalogue of the Forces the Emp——r deſigns to have on foot this enſuing Campaign. In *Lombardy*, *Twenty eight thouſand ſix hundred Men*; in the Empire, *Thirteen thouſand ſix hundred:* More than *ten thouſand* Germans *and others in Spain:* Forgetting what Prince *Eug——ne* ſaid, *That the* German *Soldiers had rather ſuffer Decimation, than ſerve in* Spain. *A Body of Reſerve to be employed where it ſhall be thought beſt, of Twenty three thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty Men, &c.* After giving the detail, they ſum up the whole, and tell us, *They will exceed the number of One hundred thouſand Men.* Who can forbear laughing at ſuch high ſounding Articles? This Army very much reſembles thoſe which the two Kings of *Brentford* talk of in the *Rehearſal!* Where have they been theſe ten Years paſt? When the Common Cauſe ſo much required their Appearance, why were they never ſeen but in Diſguiſe? May they not be compared to our new-invented *Muſter-Rolls*, detected laſt Year by the Par——nt? Or to thoſe Forces in *Spain*, mentioned in the Re—p ſent—n made by the H——ſe of L——s, where the ſame Regiment carried two different Names, and received double Pay, though they were not one of them half a Regiment compleat? Such are the *Germ——n* Troops often to be found in *Print*, but never upon *Duty*. Theſe are the Cobweb-Arts that hath ſo frequently been ſpread for us; but at preſent they Weave too courſly. We cannot be taken *again* and *again*, now that our Eyes have been opened by the Excellent Author of the *Conduct of the Allies:* His Book is in every Man's Hand; where we read how we have been impoſed upon during the whole Courſe of the War, by Articles agreed to, but never performed; which may well give us a Jealouſie, that this Parade and Noiſe is of the ſame Nature, only to induce our Par——nt to give largely this Winter, that, as uſual, they may laugh in Summer at our Credulity and Zeal. But if this proves to be more than a Boaſt, perhaps they will ravage *Italy* with their Forces, and it may be prudent to conſider what ought to be done on ſuch an Occaſion. But if this Army be of a Piece with thoſe that are paſſed, for I am told the additional Forces are not to exceed *Six and twenty hundred Men*, it will ſerve to carry on the Mock-Treaty of War, wherein *England* is to do every thing, till it ends in ſuch a Tr——ty of Pe—ce, as they would have, wherein, by their good Will, *England* ſhould have nothing.

Our late Gen—l was upon the Place, and ſaw how his Country was Yearly impoſed upon by Foreigners; how came he not to prevent it? Was it a Diſtemper, where the Remedy would prove worſe than the Diſeaſe? Or, did they agree, as in a Conſultation of Quack-Phiſicians, to prolong the Cure, for the Benefit of the preſent Fees? Perhaps it will be thought that I ſpeak too irreverently, by ſuch a Compariſon of ſo great a Man: My Eſtimation of a Perſon is in Proportion to his Virtue; none can be more Compaſſionate to Merit in Diſtreſs; the Diſgraces of ſuch a one I feel in my own Breaſt, and would be ſo far from inſulting over his fallen Condition, that I would ſincerely Condole with him: But not till I had Examined into his Behaviour, to know if he had deſerved his Sufferings, and whether his *Virtues* out-weighed his *Vices*.

I ſhould be very much inclined to acquit a Perſon, who, coming out of a long run of Profitable Employments, was no Richer than his Places and Expences might warrant; it would look as if he had kept *clean Hands*, and conſulted *Merit* more than *Gain*, leaned an Ear to Deſert, and thrown down that inacceſſable Barrier made by corrupt Favourites, who ſuffer none to paſs without an Equivalent in Gold. Such a one can ſcarce ever be reduced to the abject Neceſſity of converting BREAD, defrauded from poor half famiſhed Soldiers, into a new Name of a PERQUISITE; a Word lately invented to ſoften the greateſt Injuſtice, which had never yet any Precedent, and I hope never will. I would propoſe a Standard by which to try the worth of our late Gen——l: Is there one Man of *true Virtue* and *ſound Principles* in the three Kingdoms, that would change *Characters* and *Manners* with his Gr—ce? I will throw into one Ballance his conſtant *good Fortune* and *great Succeſs*; and, if it could poſſibly hold it, thoſe immenſe Riches he is Maſter of. Hath he ſo well diſcharged the Offices of Life, that ſuch a good Perſon ſhould find nothing in the other Scale to make him bluſh to be in his Condition? Hath he been grateful to the Founders of his Fortune, and the Preſerver of his Life? Conſtant to his Principles, not departing at one time from what he hath at another profeſſed; ſteady to the Intereſt of the Church and State; not going in with the Enemies of both to deſtroy both, ſo to advance unlimited Avarice and Ambition? Hath he been dutiful to his Prince, who ſet him at the Head of ſo great an Army? Hath he there had a due tenderneſs and regard of the Soldiers Lives, eſteeming the Expence of their

their Blood before the Title of Conqueror; or the filling their Bellies, rather than his own Coffers? Hath he ſecured the Honour and Wealth of the Nation, in reſpect of her Allies, ſo as ſhe might not be the Bubble of thoſe whom ſhe hath preſerved from Ruin? Hath he looked back to the Source of his Grandeur with either Duty or Compaſſion, guarding his Sacred Benefactreſs from the Inſults of a *Faction*, when the meaneſt Gentlewoman was uſed with more Reſpect in *England* than the Q——n? Hath he forbore to join the Cry, by raiſing his Diſguſt and Authority ſo high, that Her Ma——y durſt not give away a Commiſſion, nor pretend to a Vote in Her own Coun—ls? Yet being delivered from the impending Storm, and the Regal Power once again ſhining in full force, hath this good Man felt any Conviction, or expreſſed his Sorrow by Humiliation and Repentance, ſo as to ſuppreſs the clamorous Spirits of his Faction, that ſtrove to make the Q——n and Nation odious, meerly for wreſting themſelves from preſent Slavery, and from future tirannick Views?

The haughty Demeanour and Airs of Reſentment ſeen in ſome Perſons, though accuſed of the moſt notorious and ſcandalous Injuſtice, puts me in mind of the Pirate who told *Pompey the Great*, He only died for being a poor Rog—e; it was lawful to rob like him with Fifty Thouſand Men; whereas himſelf, who had only robbed with Fifty, muſt expect to be condemned. We find Criminals at the *Old Baily* guilty to the Value of 10 *d.* or 13 *d.* and they are accordingly either whipped or hanged; whilſt he who defrauds a Nation, through the greatneſs of the Attempt, becomes ſecure. Our late Gen——l, as the firſt Inſtance of Gratitude for the Honours and Millions beſtowed upon him, put a Nega——e, when the Q——n deſired the H——e to adj——n: The Pretence of Conſcience hath ſometimes ſerved to looſe the moſt engaging Ties; ſure this was not the Caſe here: Could it be any matter of Conſcience, whether the H.——e ſhould adj——n for a few Days or no?

I am very certain, an unjuſt Man may become a great Conqueror, we have Inſtances of it in Hiſtory; but a juſt Perſon can never be guilty of evil Actions; it is meritorious to purſue and puniſh *Great Offenders*, for a Warning to the inferior World; proſperous Inſtances of Guilt were one of thoſe Doubts that perplexed *David*, *When he beheld the wicked flouriſh*, &c. But my Subject is ſo copious, it carries me beyond the Promiſe in my laſt, and leaves me ſcarce Room to Print a Letter of *Bribery*, which was ſent me ſome ten Days paſt.

A Letter to the Examiner.

SIR,

YOU cannot, ſure, but know, that there are ſuch things as tough Cudgels *and* long Pockets; *why will you endanger your Bones being broke in a Service that don't afford Mony to pay a Surgeon; rather than to have your Purſe cramm'd, and be quiet? There's a great deal of ready Mony ſtirring, good round Sums are lodged in the Hands of —— Eſq; and —— Eſq; to be diſpoſed of to neceſſary Proſelites:* Mortgages *ought to be redeemed, and* clamorous *Debts made eaſy; Women muſt have* Tea *and* fine Petticoats; Coach-wheels *ſhould be kept going: Theſe Things are daily done, only by ſtraining a ſmall Point on the* merciful Side. *Why will you be the only Fool that ſtands out? Tip but a wink on either of the aforeſaid Eſquires, during* Seſſ—ns *they are every Day to be found in the* C——t *of* Req——s: *Or if you don't care to deal with them, take a Hackney Coach towards the fall of Night, and a deep Bag; call at New ——— back Door, ſend in to the Secretary appointed for Domeſtick Affairs, and the Buſineſs is done. At preſent your Noiſe makes you of ſome Conſequence; conſider and be wiſe, Mony is not always to be had; in a little time we ſhall either be* above *or* below *any thing that can be ſaid of us.* Adieu.

P. S. I have not room to anſwer this at preſent.

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